

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 046246

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 PRS-01

ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:RCREISJR:JBS

APPROVED BY IO/UNP:LTSTULL

VO:JJARIAS

S/PRS:JKING

SCA:TMRECKNAGLE

AF/S:SFMCDONALD

AF/RA:JWWALKER

EUR/IB:JMSMITH

L/UNA:ASURENA

L/M/SCA:HFSHAMWELL

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O R 072210Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GV, XY

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PAGE 02 STATE 046246

SUBJECT: GUINEA-BISSAU REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS

REF: USUN 781

1. WHILE THERE NO EXPRESS LEGAL BASIS FOR INSTITUTION OF PERMANENT OBSERVERS, UN SECRETARY GENERAL HAS IN PRACTICE AT HIS DISCRETION ACCORDED OBSERVER STATUS TO NON-MEMBERS OF UN WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF ONE OR MORE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND ARE GENERALLY RECOGNIZED BY MEMBERS OF UN. GUINEA-BISSAU WAS ADMITTED TO FAO LAST NOVEMBER AND IS RECOGNIZED BY 70 UN MEMBERS. IN DEPARTMENT'S OPINION, THEREFORE, WE LACK GROUNDS TO ARGUE GUINEA-BISSAU DOES NOT MEET TRADITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR UN OBSERVER STATUS.

2. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT CONSIDER USG UNDER FORMAL INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE VISAS TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES SERVING AS OBSERVERS TO UN. FORMAL AGREEMENT AND DOCUMENTATION LACKING ON SUBJECT SINCE ENTIRE PROCEDURE HAS DEVELOPED IN PRACTICE WITHOUT RECOURSE TO SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL COVENANT. HOWEVER AS OBSERVER MISSION AS INSTITUTION HAS GROWN IN PRACTICE, U.S. HAS ISSUED VISAS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF DULY ESTABLISHED OBSERVER MISSIONS. TO REFUSE VISAS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF GUINEA-

BISSAU OBSERVER MISSION WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH PAST U.S. PRACTICE AND COULD BE CONSTRUED AS ATTEMPT TO DENY SECRETARY GENERAL DISCRETION AND LEEWAY PREVIOUSLY ALLOWED IN OTHER CASES. ACCORDINGLY, DEPARTMENT HAS DECIDED IT WILL APPROVE ISSUANCE OF B-1 VISAS FOR MEMBERS GUINEA-BISSAU OBSERVER MISSION.

3. THIS DECISION IN NO WAY AFFECTS U.S. POLICY TOWARD GUINEA-BISSAU. WE STILL DO NOT BELIEVE GUINEA-BISSAU MEETS CRITERIA FOR STATEHOOD, DO NOT PLAN TO RECOGNIZE IT, AND OPPOSE ITS ADMISSION TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

4. AT TIME IT CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE MISSION SHOULD INFORM SECRETARY-GENERAL THAT WHILE U.S. DOES NOT CONSIDER IT UNDER FORMAL OBLIGATIONS TO DO SO, IT WILL GRANT VISAS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF GUINEA-BISSAU OBSERVER MISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PAST PRACTICE. YOU SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 046246

THIS DOES NOT INDICATE CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY TOWARD GUINEA-BISSAU.

5. DRAWING ON INFORMATION IN PARAS 1, 2, 3 ABOVE TO EXPLAIN OUR DECISION, MISSION AT SAME TIME IT NOTIFIES SECRETARY GENERAL SHOULD TELL PORTUGUESE MISSION THAT U.S. WILL GRANT VISAS TO GUINEA-BISSAU REPRESENTATIVES.

6. IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUESTIONS, DEPARTMENT INTENDS
TO CONFIRM THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CUSTOMARY PRACTICE,
U.S. WILL GRANT VISAS TO GUINEA-BISSAU OBSERVER MISSION
REPRESENTATIVES AND TO STATE THIS DOES NOT AFFECT U.S.
POLICY TOWARDS GUINEA-BISSAU. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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